

INITIAL PROTECTED AREA PLAN FOR THE MABINI PROTECTED LANDSCAPE AND SEASCAPE

I: INTRODUCTION/RATIONALE

Mangroves, coral reefs and seagrasses give important ecological functions to fisheries and provide benefits to man. Ecologically, mangrove forest appear to be involved in stability of soil movements and checking erosion in riparian and littoral zones as well as providing nourishment (from mangrove litter) to aquatic organisms in the mangrove and coastal ecosystems. Their economic importance and widespread destruction is needing immediate attention. These areas if managed sustainably can contribute greatly to the socioeconomic development of the country.

In Region XI, mangrove areas has reduced considerably to about 7,100 hectares at present from 17,358 hectares in 1972. The coral reefs and seagrasses on the other hand, are under constant threat to siltation, destructive fishing and harvesting of corals. The 72 hectares mangrove at Mabini Protected Landscape and Seascape is part of the 7,100 hectares that needs protection from human intervention.

The over exploitation and abuse of the coastal resources in the Region call for a development of a management strategy for the conservation and preservation of these areas to address various activities within the protected area. Conflicting uses of coastal resources, however, requires a careful design and implementation of the management planning scheme to ensure continued benefits of these areas to address protection, establishment of buffer zones and zoning of the protected area to sustain productivity and building a value that will enhance the concern of the local community of Mabini towards environmental protection wherein they the ultimate protector of the environment.

II. SITE DESCRIPTION

A. Location

The municipality of Mabini is located in the Southeastern section of the province of Davao and lies between 7 deg. 14'47.54" to 7 deg. 20'55.74" North Latitude and 125 deg. 48'28.85" to 125 deg. 51'15.426" East Longitude. It is bounded on the north by the municipality of Maco, on the south by Pantukan and on the west by the Davao Gulf where the Protected Landscape and Seascape is a part and portion of such gulf. Cuambog, the Poblacion, which is one of the coastal barangays, is the seat of its government.

The Protected Landscape and Seascape inland boundary starts from Maco - Mabini municipal boundary monument thence following its coastal line southward to Mabini Pantukan municipal boundary.

The Protected Area is accessible from any point in Mindanao. Transportation services particularly land transport are no problem since there are regular transport services plying in Mabini. Some of these vehicles are the buses, mini-buses and jeepneys traversing the national highway going to Tagum-Davao City-Davao Oriental and vice versa. In the Poblacion, there are motorized and non-motorized trisikads (pedalled tricycles) available in going to its coastal barangays. There are also single motors that ply in the area. Mabini is approximately 70 kilometers away from Davao City.

B. Area

It covers the coastal area of approximately 3,433 hectares more or less inclusive of the mangrove wilderness area of Pindasan Island under Proclamation No. 2151 dated 29 December 1981.

C. Climate

It falls under the Type 2 climatic type with a very pronounced dry season period from February to May and periods from November to December of the year.

D. Topography and Physiography

The topography of Mabini mainland area is characterized as generally flat to gently sloping and undulating while its coastal area particularly the seascape varies from zero to 104 fathoms from the shoreline going deeper seaward.

E. Soils

The Camansa series of soil occupies the hilly and mountainous portions of Mabini while coastal barangay of Cuambog and Pindasan is covered by San Miguel Silty Clay Loam. Its soil type belongs to textural family of coarse loamy, generally, depth is usually 120 centimeters and well drained. The infiltration and permeability classes are moderate and with good water holding. The soil has brown and dark yellow surface underlying a sandy substratum. Based on the result of physical and chemical analysis, the inherent fertility is medium to high with Ph values ranging from 5.4 to 5.6 and organic level is moderate as indicated by organic carbon values of 0.33 to 0.83%.

The littoral units of soils suitable for fishpond are found in the coastal barangays of Cadunan, Cuambog, San Antonio del Pilar, Pindasan and Tagnanan. The soil is formed from mixture of fluvio-marine deposits and occupies the flat areas along the shore, which is most of the time saturated by brackish water. From the physical and chemical analysis, the inherent fertility is relatively high. It is strongly saline to 10mm hos/cm. slightly acidic with pH value ranging from 5.6 to 6-8. Based from the percent of the organic carbon, the organic carbon matter level is high with 6.0 to 6.9 me/100g of soil and 30.1 to 51.9 ppm respectively (Mabini Socio-Economic Profile 1994).

F. Vegetative Cover and Land Use

Mabini is one of the primarily agricultural towns of Davao Province with a total cultivated land area of 14,883 hectares while. 50% of the whole area of the municipality about 14,640 hectares are classified as forest areas. There are about 45.5 hectares developed fishponds, 200.5 hectares for pasture and 36.0 hectares as swamplands while the coastal waters serves as a fishing ground of the municipality.

Kopiat Island is within the alienable and disposable land covered with fruit- bearing coconuts with a thin layer of mangrove on its southern mid-portion, while the Pindasan Island locally known as Lunod Island is under Proclamation No. 2151, dated 29 December 1981 as Mangrove Wilderness Area classified as Timberland Block C under L.C. Map 496 certified on February 28, 1925 covering a total area of 19.20 has. However, based on the latest survey conducted, the area was reduced to 14.82 has with a portion of fruit bearing coconuts of about 4 hectares more or less being claimed by a private person inside Proclamation No. 2151.

Aside from this pristine mangrove stand within Kopiat and Lunod Islands, a good stand of mangrove forest could also be found along the stretch of the San Antonio and Pindasan shoreline.

The coastal waters of Mabini serves as a fishing ground of the municipality.

IV. MANAGEMENT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The primary management goal is to implement a management plan that will preserve the remaining natural ecosystem, restore and rehabilitate degraded mangrove areas, coral reefs and seagrass beds and at the same time address the needs of the occupants that has been occupying the Pindasan Island Protected Landscape and Seascape prior to its proclamation and those settlements in the surrounding areas who are partially dependent of the resources therein while pursuing conservation objectives and maintaining the ecology of the area. To develop conservation awareness among the various sectors that will include local communities.. local government units, business sectors, academe and non-government organizations. The plan will delineate major areas for strictly protected area managed reserve and multiple use zones. All of this can be achieved through the following objectives:

1. To delineate and demarcate boundaries of Mabini Protected Landscape and Seascape its strictly protected area, buffer zone and sustainable use zones, multiple use zone and recreation zones;

2. To conduct detailed assessment of the biophysical condition of the area by conducting surveys and inventories of species and ecosystem;
3. To provide habitat for migratory or threatened species;

The leading cause of mortality in four (4) coastal barangays is the Cardio-Vascular Arrest (CVA) while the top three (3) causes of morbidity in the municipality are the Acute Respiratory Infection (CRI), Parasitism and Bronchitis (Table 1).

Ethnic Origins of Population

Mabini residents are predominantly Visayan or they originated from the Visayas region with Cebuanos leading the group having a total population of about 16,860 or 69.01% of the total population. Next in rank are the tribal people called the Mansaka's with a total population of 4,863 or 19.90% from the whole populace (Table 2).

Religious Affiliations

Religious affiliation data of population shows that Mabini is dominated by Christian denominations. The Roman Catholic forms the largest portion of the religious community having a total members of 19,377 which is 79.31% of the whole populace followed by Four Square Gospel Church at 6.73% then the Islam at 6.44% (Table 3).

Education and Literacy

The 1990 statistics survey clearly implies that Mabini has high literacy rate. About 91.9 percent of the total population of 17,375 persons from 10 years old and over are literate while 8.1% are illiterate.

In terms of educational attainment of the population about 26.9% of the population attained elementary education. 9.28% have graduated secondary education. 4.5% college undergraduate and 2.3% are academic degree holder.

Employment Distribution

From the total population of Mabini, 33% belongs to farmers, 19% fishermen, 7% livestock raising, 21% professionals (considered employed), 5% for self-employment and others 15%.

Economy

Mabini is identified as one of the agricultural town of Davao Province. The major crops grown are coconut, banana, coffee, palay, fruit trees and vegetables which occupy about 10,962.2 hectares of the total cultivated land of the municipality.

1. To rehabilitate degraded areas utilizing local communities and providing artificial coral reefs;
2. To enforce pertinent laws, rules and regulations to prevent further exploitation and destruction of mangrove areas, coral reef and seagrasses;
3. To, develop program of eco-tourism that is in consonance with the normal life style of the people in the area, which could provide recreation and livelihood opportunities to the local populace;
4. To conduct an information-education communication program suited to different target groups or audiences;
5. To coordinate with the local government unit of the municipality of Mabini, Davao, having the political and administrative jurisdiction in the design and implementation of the management plan;
6. To create a consultative body composed of representatives from local government units, concerned citizens, non-government organizations. and community leaders;
7. To coordinate with the Regional Offices of other line agencies or departments such as Department of Agriculture and Tourism;
8. To prepare interpretative program for protected area visitors.

V. SOCIO-ECONOMIC INFORMATION

The municipality of Mabini is composed of eleven (11) barangays, six (6) of which are coastal with a total population of 16,065 which is about 61% of 26,438. The total population of the municipality was based on the latest NCSO Census and Survey on Population and housing in 1992.

Health Aspect

There is one (1) existing private primary hospital located at the poblacion, one (1) main health center with 9 two (2) health stations strategically dispersed in barangays Pindasan and Cadunan.

Among its leading crops, coconut, however, has the highest yield in productivity with annual production of 9,980,000 kilos per harvest from collective area of 6,666 hectares. Coffee is next with annual production of 2,485,000 kilos/harvest (Table 4). Secondary source of income in the municipality is the poultry and livestock production.

Aside from agriculture, there are 45.5 hectares of developed fishpond with average yield per hectare per cropping of 600 kilos at three (3) cropping a year for inland fishing.

The municipality of Mabini had 200 marginal fishermen with 80 fishing vessels, 20 of which are motorized and 60 non-motorized. For commercial fishing, there are two (2) operators with one (1) commercial vessel raising an average annual production of 25 metric tons in 1991 and 51 metric tons in 1992. There was no data as to their latest field.

VI. KEY MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The major issues to be addressed in monitoring the integrity of the Mabini Protected Landscape and Seascape are as follows:

1. **Timber Poaching.** Illegal activities such as gathering of firewood within the second growth mangrove forest.
2. **Illegal Entry and Occupation.** The 14.82 hectares of Mangrove within Pindasan Island proclaimed as wilderness area under Proclamation No. 1251 dated 29 December 1981 has been claimed by private persons and was issued a title last 1995.
3. **Conversion of Mangrove areas for fishpond development.** There are some areas being cleared for fishpond development particularly along Barangay Pindasan.
4. **Illegal fishing method.** Destructive fishing method like dynamite fishing is sometimes observed in the area despite of the Bantay Dagat Program of the local government.

Faunal Inventory

Wildlife inventory should also be conducted to determine the species inhabiting in Mabini Protected Seascape and the frequency of occurrence, distribution in the various ecosystems of landscape and status and its the area.

Habitat Rehabilitation Program

Rehabilitation of degraded areas in the various ecosystem of the Mabini Protected Landscape and Seascape will be an important component of the project.

Mangrove Resources

Aside from coral reefs and seagrasses, mangroves are also considered one of the critical habitats because it plays an important role in maintaining the sustainability and health of the coastal ecosystem. Mangroves protect the coastline from erosion and accretion. The benefits provided by thriving mangrove communities can be regarded only after their sufficient rehabilitation. Almost 30% or four (4) hectares of the Pindasan Island covered by fruit bearing coconuts shall be made candidates for mangrove rehabilitation. A community-based mangrove reforestation scheme will be adopted in the reforestation program. Local residents will be provided with the on-

the-job training in the seedling propagation, nursery works, site preparation, planting and protection/maintenance of mangrove reforestation projects.

Coral reefs

Same with mangroves, coral reefs play important role in the coastal ecosystem which are highly productive supporting diverse communities of aquatic organisms. It protects shoreline from erosion due to wave action. Degraded areas shall also be rehabilitated. Artificial coral reefs will be constructed on highly degraded areas to provide sanctuary to fishes and support the growth of algae and benthic communities, which are essential to food chain system of marine organism. Local residents will be trained in designing and construction of the AR's using indigenous materials that are abundant in the locality.

VII. SITE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Technical and Administrative Planning

In planning process, the General Management Planning Strategy (OMPS) shall be adopted following the guidelines set forth under Circular No. 04. Series of 1993, whereby the interdisciplinary team approached shall be adhered to in order to ensure representation of various disciplines to achieve coordinated site planning efforts.

Resource Assessment Program

This program concerns with the inventory and assessment of the resources within the Mabini Protected Landscape and Seascape for its inclusion in the NIPAS. This program includes data gathering and field surveys, inventory of fauna and flora and socio-economic profiling, survey and census of protected area occupants as well as updating the land-use, mapping, determining the extent of forest cover and degraded areas of mangroves, coral reefs and seagrasses for rehabilitation.

Mangrove Resources. A detailed survey of mangrove resources within Mabini Protected Landscape and Seascape will be conducted to determine the exact area of the mangrove stand and degraded areas to be subjected to mangrove rehabilitation. A map with a scale of 1:50,000 will be prepared showing the existing mangrove stand and areas for rehabilitation.

Coral Reefs. Survey activities will also be conducted to determine location and status of coral reef and fish population. A map will be prepared is a scale of 1:50,000 showing coral reef location/status and type of fish population identified in each coral reef areas.

Seagrasses. The presence of seagrasses inside this protected area will also be identified and indicated on the map with a scale of 1:50,000. Degraded seagrass beds will also be included in the rehabilitation process. Areas where seagrasses grow naturally will be cleared of debris and waste. Seagrass plantation will be undertaken in areas where the coral reefs are endangered by siltation.

Resource Protection Program

A protected area protection plan for Mabini Protected Landscape and Seascape shall be preferred in coordination with the LGU'S. NGO'S, PO's and other government entities with programs and projects within the area in order to address the problems and threats besetting the area like dynamite fishing, timber poaching, illegal entry and occupation, unregulated collection/hunting of wildlife resources. Strict enforcement of laws, rules and regulations shall be adhered with the help of the LGU's. NGO's and the Protected Area Management Board of Mabini Protected Landscape and Seascape.

The program shall include, hiring of wardens and guides and providing funds for the purchase of communication facilities and transportation units to include incentive allowances for protection officers.

Ecotourism Program

This program involves the preparation of a feasibility of a sustainable ecotourism projects at Mabini Protected Landscape and Seascape with the aim in view of providing a sustainable economic return to the protected area and the community. Areas with ecotourism value that could provide not only recreation and enjoyment but also livelihood opportunities that could generate income to the local communities. This program includes the construction of appropriate ecotourism facilities and infrastructure.

Interpretative Program

Interpretative signs should be installed or placed in strategic places to provide information and awareness to protected area visitors. Orientation upon first entering the protected area, naturalistic publications and guided/self-guided trips or activities within the protected area is more effective interpretative event. Identification of unfamiliar objects should also be done.

MANAGEMENT ZONING

The local populace, NGO's and PO's shall be made part and parcel in the decision making process in zone establishment and management planning in order to accurately established sound management prescription that will fit a given management zone. This shall minimize the possibility of underplanning or overplanning as a consequence of lack of knowledge on the area of interest.

These management zones are delineated considering each suitable management prescription using existing vegetation, ecological boundaries and their significance in relation to the issues, concerns, opportunities and management decisions that need to be addressed. They are group on the basis of relative common impacts and social economic factors. Areas of the different management zone shall be subject to actual ground survey and verification.

a.) Strict Protection Zone

This zone covers areas of coral reefs with excellent and good living coral cover, seagrass beds and pristine mangrove stand particularly at the Tagnanan area, coral reefs along Kopyat Island totalling to five parcels with an aggregate area of 217 hectares. No human activity is allowed except for scientific studies. This zone shall be strictly protected solely intended for biodiversity preservation and enhancement of fishery resources.

b.) Restoration Zone

Degraded areas of coral reefs where there is fair and poor living coral cover shall be restored or enriched by artificial reef construction. For degraded areas of seagrasses beds and mangrove areas, the area shall be rehabilitated through enrichment planting. Mangrove reforestation has been conducted on same portions of the area with approximate area of ten (10) hectares more or less.

c.) Recreation Zone

These are area where beaches are located particularly along the stretch of the coastline of the mainland Mabini from barangay Cuambog and barangay Tagnanan and along the eastern shoreline of Kopyat Island with a total aggregate area of 10 hectares more or less. Its visitor carrying capacity and recreational activities shall be regulated to protect the adjacent restoration and strict protection zone from human destruction.

d.) Multiple Use Zone

A multiple use zone is located at the populated area along the coastline of Cuambog and Pindasan with an area of approximately 16 hectares more or less.

e.) Sustainable Use Zone

This is the remaining area of the protected seascape totalling to 5,405.5 hectares wherein fishing activity is allowed using traditional sustainable method which are not in conflict with biodiversity conservation requirements.

f.) Buffer Zone

These are areas along the periphery of the core or strict protection zone of approximately about 15 hectares more or less which shall not be subject to any activity except for scientific researches to give room for the juvenile fish to grow before it is dispersed to adjacent areas.

VIII. SOCIO-ECONOMIC PLANNING

In socio-economic planning, it is important to take into account the interrelationships among the various user groups in developing the program that will meet the needs of various communities in the Protected Landscape and Seascape without jeopardizing conservation objectives.

A. Community Organizing

Under the project, communities will be organized, strengthened and trained to become the local point of biodiversity conservation and protected area management as well as build their self-reliance and developmental capabilities through bottom top project planning and, implementation and evaluation so that it will make development compatible with culture and values.

B. Buffer Zone Management

There is a need to establish a buffer zone within areas of the strict protection zone to provide additional layer of protection while providing sustainable benefits to various user groups. The Protected Area management Board of Mabini and the Protected Area Services of the DENR shall have the authority on Buffer zone area.

C. Site specific Policy Development

The DENR, in cooperation and coordination with the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) of Mabini Protected Landscape and Seascape through its executive committee shall formulate policies/guidelines to address problems, issues and concerns that may arise in the course of implementing the project.

IX. COORDINATION AND NETWORKING

Linkaging with the different DENR implementing units, like the CENRO and PENRO of Tagum. Davao-will be established. Likewise. coordination with the NGOs, OGAS, POs, academe and LGU of Mabini having political and administrative jurisdiction over the protected area shall be done in carrying out biodiversity protection and conservation of Mabini Protected Landscape and Seascape.

X. MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT

The project shall hire a Protected Area Superintendent (PASU) and its staff to implement the Protected Landscape and Seascape Management Program, support the PAMB and provide general administrative support in coordination with the DENR and the Host-NGO, the recommended positions that will be hired as the Protected Staff areas follows:

Technical Section

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Forester III |
| 1 | Fishery Specialist I |
| 1 | Ecosystem Management Specialist I (Marine Biologist) |
| 1 | Project Development Officer I |
| 2 | Sociologist/Community Organizer |

6 Wardens

Administrative Section

2 Utility Workers

1 Clerk

Periodic training and Seminar-Workshop shall be given to the Protected Area Staff in order to promote or upgrade their skills in protected area management

The Protected Area Management Board, the Host-NGO, LGUs and People's Organization and other government agencies involved in the management of the Mabini Protected Landscape and Seascape shall also be given periodic seminar/workshop and training.

Periodic evaluation of staff performance shall be conducted to determine what training needs maximize their potentials in the protected area management.

MANILA

**BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES
PROCLAMATION NO. _____**

ESTABLISHING AS MABINI PROTECTED LANDSCAPE AND SEASCAPE THE PARCEL/PORTION OF THE DAVAO GULF SITUATED WITHIN THE COASTAL WATERS OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MABINI, PROVINCE OF DAVAO.

Upon recommendation of the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources, and pursuant to the powers vested in me by law, I, FIDEL V. RAMOS, President of the Philippines, do hereby withdraw from sale entry, disposition or settlements and set aside for ecological enhancement purpose, subject to private rights, if there be any, and to the operations thereof for specific purposes, the parcel/portion of the Davao Gulf located within the coastal waters of the Municipality of Mabini, Province of Davao, Island of Mindanao, more particularly described as follows:

Bounded on the East from corner 53 to corner 7 by the mainland Municipality of Mabini, Davao and on the Southwest and North directions by portion of the Davao Gulf. Beginning at a point marked "1" on the map being at the mouth (South Bank) of Pindasan River;

Thence, following the shoreline generally in southeasterly direction of about 700.00 meters straight distance to corner 2 a stake on the ground;

Thence, following the shoreline generally in southwesterly direction of about 900.00 meters straight distance to corner 3, a stake on the ground;

Thence, following the shoreline generally in Southwesterly direction of about 850.00 meters straight distance to corner 4, a stake on the ground;

Thence, following the shoreline generally in southwesterly direction of about 1,650.00 meters straight distance to corner 5, a stake on the ground;

Thence, following the shoreline generally in southwesterly direction of about 750.00 meters straight distance to corner 6, a stake on the ground;

Thence, following shoreline generally in Southeasterly direction of the about 1,300.00 meters straight distance to corner 7, a point;

Thence, due West, 600.00 meters to corner 8, a buoy;

Thence, due West, 500.00 meters to corner 9, a buoy;

Thence, due West, 500.00 meters to corner 10, a buoy;

Thence, due West, 550.00 meters to corner 11, a buoy;

Thence, due West, 550.00 meters to corner 12, a buoy;

Thence, due west, 500.00 meters to corner 13, a buoy;

Thence, due West, 500.00 meters to corner 14, a buoy;

Thence, due West, 500.00 meters to corner 15, a buoy;

Thence, due West, 500.00 meter to corner 16, a buoy;

Thence, due West, 500.00 meters to corner 17, a buoy;

Thence, due West, 500.00 meters to corner 18, a buoy;

Thence, due West, 500.00 meters to corner 19, a buoy;

Thence, due West, 500.00 meters to corner 20, a buoy;

Thence, due West, 500 meters to corner 21, a buoy;

Thence, N. 14 deg. 00'E, 480.00 meters to corner 22, a buoy;

Thence, N. 14 deg. 00'E, 500.00 meters to corner 23, a buoy;

Thence, N. 14 deg. 00'E, 500.00 meters to corner 24, a buoy;

Thence, N. 14deg. 00'E, 500.00 meters to corner 25, a buoy;

Thence, N. 14 deg. 00'E. 9 500.00 meters to corner 26, a buoy;

Thence, N. 14 deg. 00'E., 500.00 meters to corner 27, a bouy;

Thence, N. 14 deg. 00'E., 500.00 meters to corner 28, a buoy;

Thence, N. 14 deg. 00'E., 500.00 meters to corner 29, a buoy;

Thence, N. 14 deg. 00'E., 500.00 meters to corner 30, a buoy;

Thence, N. 14 deg. 00'E., 500.00 meters to corner 31, a buoy;

Thence, N. 14 deg. 00'E., 500.00 meters to corner 32, a buoy;

Thence, N. 14 deg. 00'E., 500.00 meters to corner 33, a buoy;

Thence, N. 14 deg. 00'E., 500.00 meters to corner 34, a buoy;

Thence, N. 14 deg. 00'E., 500.00 meters to corner.35, a buoy;

Thence, N. 14 deg. 00'E., 500.00 meters to corner 36, a buoy;

Thence, N. 14 deg. 00'E., 500.00 meters to corner 37, a buoy;

Thence, N. 14 deg. 00'E.. 500.00 meters to corner 38, a buoy;

Thence, N. 14 deg. 00'E., 450.00 meters to corner 39, a buoy;

Thence, N. 68 deg. 00'E., 550.00 meters to corner 40, a buoy;

Thence, N. 68 deg. 00'E., 500.00 meters to corner 41, a buoy;

Thence, N. 68 deg. 00'E.. 500.00 meters to corner 42, a buoy;

Thence, N. 68 deg. 00'E., 500.00 meters to corner 43, a buoy;

Thence, N. 68 deg. 00'E., 500.00 meters to corner 44, a buoy;

Thence, N. 68 deg. 00'E., 500.00 meters to corner 45, a buoy;

Thence, N. 68 deg. 00'B., 500.00 meters to corner 46, a buoy;

Thence, N. 68 deg. 00'E., 500.00 meters to corner 47, a buoy,

Thence, N. 68 deg. 00'E. 550.00 meters to corner 48, a buoy.

Thence, N. 68 deg. 00'E., 500.00 meters to corner 49, a buoy;

Thence, N. 68 deg. 00'E., 500.00 meters to corner 50, a buoy;

Thence, N. 68 deg. 00'E., 500.00 meters to corner 51, a buoy;

Thence, N. 68 deg. 00'E., 500.00 meters to corner 52, a buoy;

Thence, N. 68 deg. 00'E., 560.00 meters to corner 53, a stake on the ground;

Thence, following the shoreline general southwesterly direction of about 1,450.00 meters straight distance to corner 54, a stake on the ground;

Thence, following the shoreline generally in southwesterly direction of about 650.00 meters straight distance to corner 55, a stake on the ground;

Thence, following the shoreline generally in southwesterly direction of about 1,100.00 meters straight distance to corner 56, a stake on the ground:

Thence, following the shoreline generally in southwesterly direction of about 2,550.00 meters straight distance to point of the beginning continuing an area of FIVE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED THIRTY SEVEN (5,137) hectares more or less.

The said area shall be known as Mabini Protected Landscape and Seascape and the peripheral areas of core zones or strict protection zone as Buffer Zones, which shall not be subject to human activity except for scientific research and studies. The subject area shall remain under the administrative jurisdiction of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and shall be administered by the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) as constituted pursuant to Republic Act 7586 otherwise known as NIPAS ACT of 1997 and its implementing rules and regulations.

The purpose for the establishment of the Protected Landscape and Seascape is to protect and conserve the ecological, biological, scientific and educational features of the area. The peripheral Buffer Zone is established to serve as an extra layer of protection for the fair, good and excellent coral cover, seagrass beds and mangroves and certain areas thereof as sites for livelihood projects and sustainable resource utilization.

Insofar as the rules and regulations are consistent with the provisions of the NIPAS ACT, they shall continue to apply until Congress shall otherwise declare. All other applicable laws shall remain in full force and effect.

The DENR shall prioritize the implementation of the General Management Strategy (GMPS) boundary relocation and the appointment of the Protected Area Staff in the area covered.

A person qualifying for a tenured migrant status as of the effectivity of the NIPAS ACT shall be eligible to become a steward of the portion of land within the appropriate management of the protected area and from which he may derive subsistence.

The Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) appointed by the Secretary shall perform such powers and duties as specified In the NTPAS ACT and as delegated to it by the Secretary under such Act. All decisions made pursuant to these rules and regulations shall have the force and effect of acts of a final PAMB and the NIPAS ACT.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

Done in the city of Manila this _____ day of _____ in the year of our Lord Nineteen Hundred and Ninety Seven.

BY THE PRESIDENT

Executive Secretary

FIDEL V. RAMOS